

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 121

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, RP, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE STILL WAITING FOR GOP DESIDERATA FOR NEW  
ECONOMIC TREATY

REF: MANILA 11133

1. IT HAS BEEN TWO AND HALF MONTHS SINCE THE GOP, IN A RATHER ECCENTRIC AND PRECIPITIOUS MANNER, GAVE NOTICE OF ITS DECISION TO TERMINATE THE PHILIPPINE/JAPANESE TREATY OF AMITY, COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION. HOWEVER, DESPITE ITS UNSEEMLY HASTE IN GIVING NOTICE, THE GOP HAS NOT YET COMMUNICATED ITS DESIDERATA TO THE JAPANESE EMBASSY, NOR HAS IT RESPONDED TO JAPANESE SUGGESTIONS FOR BRIDGING THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE LAPSE OF THE OLD TREATY AND THE NEGOTIATION OF A SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE JAPANESE EMBASSY SEEMS TO BE TAKING A MORE RELAXED IF PERHAPS SOMEWHAT BEMUSED ATTITUDE.

2. JAPANESE CONSULOR TOSHITAKE KATAYAMA HAS TOLD US THAT DFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS PABLO SUAREZ HAS BEEN PROMISING HIM A POSITION PAPER AT BEST ONCE A WEEK FOR THE PAST FOUR WEEKS. KAYAYAMA DOES NOT EXPECT TO  
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RECEIVE SUCH A PAPER FOR SOME TIME, ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTANDS

THAT THERE IS SOME MEMORANDUM OR PAPER BEFORE PRESIDENT MARCOS FOR HIS DECISION. IN THIS RESPECT, SECRETARY ROMULO HAS SAID IN A PRESS INTERVIEW THAT THE GOP WOULD SUBMIT THE DRAFT OF A NEW TREATY TO THE JAPANESE AS SOON AS IT IS REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT.

3. SECRETARY ROMULO IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT JAPAN SEPTEMBER 12 TO 14 ON HIS WAY TO NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA. THE GOJ HAS PROPOSED FOUR SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSIONS: (A) A NEW ECONOMIC TREATY OR REVISIONS TO THE OLD TREATY; (B) FUTURE PHILIPPINE/JAPANESE RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOP DESIRE FOR A NEW TREATY; (C) KOREAN ITEM; AND (D) JAPANESE RELATIONS WITH ASEAN. THE JAPANESE EMBASSY DOES NOT EXPECT MUCH SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST SUBJECT. INDEED, IT UNDERSTANDS THAT ONE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ROMULO'S TRIP TO JAPAN IS TO TAKE THE BULLET TRAIN FROM OSAKA TO TOKYO.

4. JAPANESE COUNSELOR KATAYAMA REPORTED THAT THE VARIOUS MINISTERIES IN TOKYO, EXCEPT FOR THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, REACTED WITH EQUANIMITY TO THE GOP DECISION TO ABROGATE. THE TRANSPORT MINISTRY WAS CONCERNED ABOUT LOSING THE LIBERAL SHIPPING PROVISIONS IN THE OLD TREATY, PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT GOP SHIPPING DISCRIMINATION IN PD 894. KATAYAMA ALSO REPORTED THAT THE JAPANESE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WAS TAKING THE DEVELOPMENT CALMLY AND EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS AS USUAL. JAPANESE TRADE AND INVESTMENT HAVE NOW BEEN ESTABLISHED ON A FIRMER BASIS, AND THE MUTUAL BENEFITS DERIVED FROM THE BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP SHOULD ENABLE JAPANESE ECONOMIC INTERESTS HERE TO RIDE OUT ANY LAPSE IN TREATY RELATIONS.  
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